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ing often even to fatalism, mankind may largely miss the deep meaning of the lesson.

SIMON FLEXNER

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### THE NEW INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY<sup>1</sup>

As a result of conferences held in London and Paris in October and November, 1918, the scientific academies of the allied nations decided to recommend the dissolution of all international scientific associations in existence before the war and the reconstitution of such associations by and among the nations associated in the war against the Central Empires. As a result of this recommendation the International Association of Chemical Societies was dissolved and at a conference held in Paris in May of this year definite steps were taken toward the formation of an inter-allied chemical union.

At this conference delegates from the principal allied nations were present. A provisional organization was effected and a committee appointed to draft articles of confederation. M. Moureu, president of the Federated Chemical Societies of France was elected president and M. Gerard, temporary secretary. After drawing up a statement of the purposes of the new organization the Paris conference adjourned and issued a call for a final conference to be held in London, July 14, for the purpose of perfecting the permanent organization and of passing upon the statutes to be prepared by the special committee. In accordance with this action each of the allied countries was invited to send delegates to the London meeting.

This meeting convened in Salters Hall, London, on July 14 last, and continued its sessions until July 18. The countries represented and their delegates were as follows: Belgium—MM. Lucion and Timmermanns; France—MM. Moureu, Kestner, Behal, Marquis, Marie and Gerard; Italy—MM. O.

<sup>1</sup> Address delivered at the Fifth National Exposition of Chemical Industries at Chicago, September 25, 1919.

Severini and G. Pirelli; United Kingdom—Sir William Pope, Henry Louis, H. E. Armstrong, E. F. Armstrong, A. C. Chaston-Chapman and W. P. Wynne; United States—F. G. Cottrell, C. L. Parsons, E. W. Washburn and H. S. Washington.

Practically all of the time of the conference was devoted to framing the statutes of the new international organization and the election of the officers for the first three-year term. The following officers were elected:

*President*—M. Ch. Moureu.

*General Secretary*—M. Jean Gerard (49 Rue des Mathurins, Paris).

*Vice-Presidents*—Georges Chavannes (for Belgium), L. Parodi Delfino (for Italy), C. L. Parsons (for the United States), Sir William Pope (for the United Kingdom).

Communications were received from Canada and Poland signifying their adhesion to the new organization and requesting admission. It was also decided to admit the neutral countries immediately, but the admission of the Central Powers was made contingent upon their admission to the League of Nations. The new union is thus to be international in character instead of merely inter-allied.

The conference also voted its approval of the organization of an International Research Council as contemplated by the Conference of Scientific Academies, and expressed its desire to be included in that organization with autonomous powers as the Chemical Section thereof. It was decided to hold the next meeting of the international chemical union in Italy early in June in 1920.

Previous to adjournment the Conference officially appointed those members of its own body who expected to attend the Brussels meeting of the International Research Council as its representatives at that meeting, for the purpose of effecting the union of the new international chemical organization with the International Research Council as its chemical branch.

The delegates thus appointed re-assembled in Brussels on July 22. This meeting was largely devoted to the discussion, modification and final adoption of the statutes of the

new International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

In confirmation of action taken at the London meeting it was voted that a critical compendium of physical and chemical constants should be prepared and published under the auspices of America as part of her contribution toward an international program of documentation which the new union proposed to proceed with as rapidly as possible. The formation of the necessary editorial board for carrying this project into effect and the necessary arrangements for financing it, are now progressing toward completion under the direction of the National Research Council of the United States. This undertaking while primarily under the direction of an American committee which will be charged with complete responsibility, both editorial and financial, will nevertheless be conducted on an international basis with assistant editors and collaborators in the principal nations of the Union. The majority of the delegates felt strongly that in nearly all cases where a program of work was adopted by the Union, the most efficient manner of accomplishing it was to center the responsibility for each part in a given country, rather than to form a central international committee with a consequent distribution of the responsibility.

The purposes of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry and its present composition as set forth in Article I. of the Statutes are as follows:

#### ARTICLE I

1. Each of the following countries—Belgium, United States of America, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Italy, through the agency of its National Research Council (Chemistry Division), or its Federal Council of Chemistry, or failing such national federation, through the agency of a national chemistry association—joins with the others in the formation of an International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, having for its objects the following:

(a) To cement among the allied peoples the

bonds of friendship and mutual esteem which have been developed and strengthened during the course of the war.

(b) To organize permanent cooperation between the chemical associations of the different countries.

(c) To coordinate their scientific and technical activities.

(d) To contribute to the advancement of chemistry in all its branches.

2. The Union thus constituted shall be perpetual. Its provisional headquarters shall be in Paris.

The admission of a nation to the Union is effected through some organization within that nation which substantially constitutes a federation of the principal chemical societies of the country. Thus the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland joined the Union through her Federal Council for Pure and Applied Chemistry, France joined through her Federation Nationale des Associations de Chemie Pure et Appliquée, Italy through her Associazione Italiana di Chimica Generale ed Applicata and the United States of America through the Division of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of the National Research Council. Ultimately it is the expectation that in each nation there will be formed a National Research Council somewhat similar to our own and when this is formed, the National Chemical Federation will become merged with it as the chemical division.

The voting strengths, number of delegates and financial contributions of the countries belonging to the Union are fixed in accordance with six categories determined by population. The new Union is to be administered by a Council composed of the delegates of the constituent countries and between meetings of the Council by the Committee of Officers, composed of the president, the four vice-presidents and the general secretary. The statutes also provide that annual meetings of the Union shall be held. The other provisions of the statutes have to do principally with the machinery of operation, method of voting, financial provision conduct of meetings, duties of the officers, etc.

Owing to the fact that the drawing up and adoption of the statutes consumed practically all of the time of the delegates both at the London and at the Brussels meeting, there was practically no opportunity to consider at length the various projects which the Union should undertake and it is therefore probable that the Rome meeting will be devoted largely to drawing up a program of work.

The fact that the new Union is a union of national federations in a position to act for all the chemical interests of the countries which they represent, and having frequent meetings throughout the year, should make it possible for this new international organization to function more efficiently than the previous International Association of Chemical Societies, and it is hoped that the new organization will accomplish valuable work for the science and for the chemists of the world.

EDWARD W. WASHBURN,

*Acting Secretary of the American  
Delegation*

STATUTES OF THE INTERNATIONAL UNION OF PURE  
AND APPLIED CHEMISTRY (FREE TRANSLA-  
TION OF THE FRENCH TEXT)

*Article I*

1. Each of the following countries—Belgium, United States of America, France, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and Italy, through the agency of its National Research Council (Chemistry Division), or its Federal Council of Chemistry, or failing such national federation, through the agency of a national chemistry association—joins with the others in the formation of an International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, having for its objects the following:

(a) To cement among the allied peoples the bonds of friendship and mutual esteem which have been developed and strengthened during the course of the war.

(b) To organize permanent cooperation between the chemical associations of the different countries.

(c) To coordinate their scientific and technical activities.

(d) To contribute to the advancement of chemistry in all its branches.

2. The Union thus constituted shall be perpetual. Its provisional headquarters shall be in Paris.

*Article II*

1. The conditions governing the admission of a country to the Union shall conform to those fixed by the statutes of the International Research Council.

2. A country may join the Union through its "national chemical federation," *e. g.*, through its National Research Council (Chemistry Division), or through its Federated Council of Chemistry, or failing such organization, through a national association representing chemistry. (*Translator's Note.*—The purpose of this paragraph is to provide for the formation in each country of some national agency which shall federate all of the major chemical organizations of the country. Thus in the United States this federation is effected through the Chemistry Division of the National Research Council, while in England it is effected through her Federal Council of Chemistry. Ultimately it is expected that in each country the federating agency will become merged in the National Research Council of that country in the capacity of its Chemistry Division.)

*Article III*

1. The functions of the Union as set forth in Article I, shall be exercised through a council, assisted by an administrative secretary and by a special staff or bureau, the establishment and duties of which shall be determined by international agreement among the constituent countries.

*Article IV*

1. The annual subscription for each country is fixed at a rate dependent upon the number of its inhabitants, in accordance with the following categories:

|                 | Population in Millions<br>of Inhabitants | Minimum Annual<br>Subscription |
|-----------------|--|--------------------------------|
| Category A..... | less than 5                              | 500 francs                     |
| " B.....        | from 5 to 10                             | 1,000 "                        |
| " C.....        | from 10 to 15                            | 1,500 "                        |
| " D.....        | from 15 to 20                            | 2,000 "                        |
| " E.....        | from 20 to 30                            | 2,500 "                        |
| " F.....        | more than 30                             | 3,000 "                        |

2. The inhabitants of any non-self-governing colonies or protectorates of a country may, at the discretion of that country and in accordance with its own census data, be counted with its own inhabitants.

3. No member of the Union may without its own consent be assessed by the Union to provide funds for other than general administrative expenses.

*Article V*

1. Any member of the Union may withdraw therefrom, provided said member shall have fulfilled all of its current obligations.

2. A member of the Union may be expelled or dropped from membership by a three fourths vote of the members of the council, either present or represented, for non-payment of the minimum annual subscription or for a serious offense, the member having previously been called upon to furnish explanations.

*Article VI*

1. The Union shall be administered by a council composed of the delegates of the constituent countries, the numbers and distribution of such delegates to be determined by the categories of Article IV. in accordance with the following table:

|                  | Delegates |
|------------------|-----------|
| Category A ..... | 1         |
| “ B .....        | 2         |
| “ C .....        | 3         |
| “ D .....        | 4         |
| “ E .....        | 5         |
| “ F .....        | 6         |

2. These delegates shall be appointed for a term of three years by the “National Chemical Federation” of the respective countries. One third of the membership of the council shall retire annually but the retiring members shall be eligible for reappointment.

*Article VII*

1. The executive functions of the council shall be exercised through a committee of the officers which shall be a president, four vice-presidents, and a general secretary. These officers shall be elected by the council from among its own membership by a majority vote. They shall serve for terms of three years, and with the exception of the general secretary shall not be eligible for immediate reelection to the same office. The president shall be chosen from among the vice-presidents.

*Article VIII*

1. The council shall meet at least once a year on the day before the annual general meeting in the town where the latter is to be held, and, in addition, as often as it shall be convened by its president, or upon the requisition of one fourth of its members.

2. The council shall fix the date and place of meeting, draw up the budget, and decide as to expenses.

3. Resolutions shall be adopted by a majority.

4. On questions of an administrative or financial nature the voting shall be by countries, each country having a number of votes equal to the number of its delegates. In such voting it is, however, not necessary that all these delegates be present. The delegates of any country may appoint one or several proxies to represent them and to vote in their name.

5. Voting by correspondence is permitted.

6. All questions to be voted upon must appear on the agenda of the meeting.

7. The president shall have the casting vote in case of a tie.

*Article IX*

1. Minutes shall be kept of all meetings. Two copies of the minutes shall be prepared and signed by the chairman and the secretaries of the meeting.

2. The permanent secretarial staff shall have the custody of the archives, and shall be entrusted with the execution of the decisions taken by the council and by the committee of officers and in particular with the circulation of the agenda.

*Article X*

1. The functions of the committee of officers shall be:

- (a) To see that the rules are strictly observed.
- (b) To prepare the agenda for meetings of the council.
- (c) To record and carry out the decisions of the council.
- (d) To perform during the entire period elapsing between two meetings of the council the necessary acts of administration and to report the same in writing to the members of the council.
- (e) To submit to the council a draft yearly budget.
- (f) To represent the Union or to appoint its representatives.

*Article XI*

1. There shall be instituted, in addition to the council, a consultative committee, consisting of as many sections as shall be necessary to ensure the complete representation of pure and applied chemistry in conformity with the regulations of the Union.

*Article XII*

1. The general assembly of the Union shall consist of the members of the council and of the delegates of the “National Chemical Federations” of the constituent countries.

2. A regular meeting of the general assembly shall be held at least once a year, preferably at the time and place of the meeting of the International Congress of Pure and Applied Chemistry.

3. The general assembly shall also meet when called together by the council or when such a meeting is requested by at least one half of the members of the Union.

4. The general assembly shall receive reports on the administrative work of the council on its financial situation, and on the general condition of the Union.

5. It shall approve the accounts of the previous fiscal year as certified by an auditor, selected from outside the membership of the council and appointed by the general assembly of the preceding year.

6. It shall pass upon the budget for the next fiscal year and shall discuss those questions appearing upon its agenda.

7. The annual report and the accounts shall be sent each year to all the members three months in advance of the annual meeting of the general assembly. The agenda of the general assembly shall be drawn up by the council and must include every question which shall have been transmitted to it by any of the members of the Union three months in advance of the meeting of the general assembly.

8. The officers and executive committee of the general assembly shall be identical with those of the council.

9. Votes on administrative and financial questions shall be cast by countries, each country having the number of votes indicated in the categories of Article VI.

10. The delegates of any country may appoint one or several proxies to represent them and to vote in their name.

#### Article XIII

1. All expenditures shall be authorized by the president and disbursed through the administrative secretary.

2. The spokesman and representative of the Union before the public and in all legal matters and court proceedings shall be its president, who may, however, delegate his powers in this respect to the administrative secretary or to any member of the council.

#### Article XIV

1. Resolutions of the council relating to such purchases, exchanges, and transfer of real property as may be needed for the accomplishment of the objects of the Union, grant of mortgages on

the said properties, leases for more than nine years, transfers of properties and loans, must be submitted to the general assembly for approval.

#### Article XV

1. Amendments to these statutes may be considered and voted upon by the general assembly only when submitted thereto by the council of the Union or proposed by a "national chemical federation" of one of its constituent countries. All such proposed amendments shall appear upon the agenda of the meeting of the general assembly, provided they have been received in writing by the committee of officers at least three months in advance of the meeting.

2. Voting upon amendments shall be by countries in accordance with the categories of Article VI.

3. Voting by correspondence is permitted.

4. The statutes may be amended only by a two thirds majority of the votes cast.

#### Article XVI

1. In the event of a meeting of the general assembly being convened to decide upon the dissolution of the Union, special notices to that effect shall be sent three months in advance; and at least three quarters of the members of the Union or their proxies must be present. If this proportion is not reached, the general assembly shall be adjourned for not less than six months, when the decision of the adjourned meeting shall be operative, irrespective of the number of members present.

In any case, dissolution can only be resolved upon by a majority of two thirds of the votes cast.

#### Article XVII

1. In the event of dissolution the general assembly shall appoint one or more trustees to liquidate the property of the Union; and any surplus assets shall be donated to an international institution.

#### Article XVIII

1. In the interpretation of these statutes the French text shall be authoritative.

EDWARD W. WASHBURN,

*Acting secretary of the American Delegation*

### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

#### GIFT FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF MEDICAL EDUCATION IN THE UNITED STATES

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has given to the General Education Board, founded by him in 1902, \$20,000,000, to be used for the improve-